

ANIMAL CONTROL

DESCRIPTION

The Animal Control Section provides for the safety and welfare of our citizens where it pertains to the control of unsupervised domestic animals and the protection of animals from inhumane treatment. Animal Control Officers are responsible for the enforcement of state laws and county ordinances as

they apply to domestic animals. It is the responsibility of the Animal Control Section to operate a shelter for the complete care of animals in their custody. This section reports to the Major of the Police Department, Support Services Division.

FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

	FY2002 Actual	FY2003 Adopted	FY2004 Biennial Planned	FY2004 Adopted	Change FY2003 to FY2004	FY2005 Projected	FY2006 Projected	FY2007 Projected
Personnel	\$671,937	\$688,800	\$688,800	\$710,100	3.1%	\$710,100	\$710,100	\$710,100
Operating	342,022	223,100	223,100	225,200	0.9%	225,200	225,200	225,200
Capital	<u>2,439</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>	0.0%	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>
Total	\$1,016,397	\$921,900	\$921,900	\$945,300	2.5%	\$945,300	\$945,300	\$945,300
Revenue	<u>72,725</u>	<u>87,700</u>	<u>87,700</u>	<u>85,000</u>	-3.1%	<u>85,000</u>	<u>85,000</u>	<u>85,000</u>
Net Cost	\$943,673	\$834,200	\$834,200	\$860,300	3.1%	\$860,300	\$860,300	\$860,300
FT Pos.	17	17	17	17	0	17	17	17

BUDGET ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION

Animal Control has implemented a variety of initiatives with outside organizations such as pet retailers, shelters, the media, and community programs that enhance the quality of life for both citizens and animals. These initiatives focus on public education and awareness of issues such as pet adoption, sterilization, and other issues concerning responsible pet ownership. As a result of these efforts the section has seen an increase of 4.9% over last year in the number of animals adopted and a 14.3% increase in the number of animals returned to their owners.

Through a partnership with the Chesterfield County Humane Society, a capital campaign to build an onsite spay/neuter clinic at the shelter is continuing. This onsite clinic, once built, will be given to Chesterfield County and will enable the county to play a strategic role in reducing the overpopulation of animals. With this new addition, the Animal Control Section will be able to provide more

comprehensive services, including vaccinations and the purchase of dog licenses. In addition, the Humane Society also plays a key role in providing for the day to day needs of the shelter through donations of food, medicine, and supplies.

The Animal Control Section answered 11,586 calls for service during calendar year 2002 (an increase of 7.3% over last year), and housed 5,598 (an increase of 5.4%) animals during the same period. This reflects a steady increase over previous years and is expected to continue as the county grows. As a result, the workload for the current staff increases and it is becoming increasingly difficult to maintain customer service levels for county citizens. For this reason funding has been requested for an additional Animal Control Officer. This position will enhance the section's ability to provide more proactive enforcement, education and compliance with county ordinances through greater citizen contact and by increasing the number of neighborhood patrols. In

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addition, funds have been requested to replace a truck, which will enable the maintenance of a 6 year, 100,000 mile replacement schedule. Funding for the

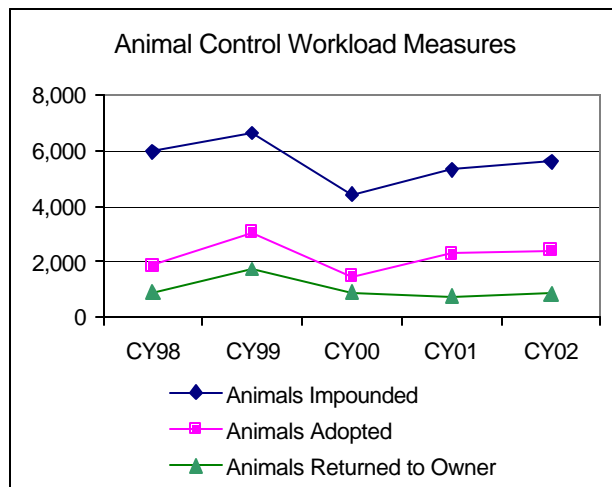
Animal Control Officer position as well as the truck has not been identified within the FY2004 budget.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Goal: To serve and maintain public safety pertaining to animal-related ordinances. Supports countywide strategic goal number 4

Objective: Improve the quality of Animal Control services to the citizens of the community

Measure: Number of animals impounded, returned to owner, and adopted



Initiatives

- Partnership with Chesterfield Humane Society to take animals to remote locations to promote pet adoption
- Work with local media and the county Public Affairs Department to promote pet adoptions
- Improve response time for Animal Control

WHERE ARE WE GOING?

Strategies need to be developed and implemented to expand partnerships with citizens, organizations, the media, and the Animal Control Section. Increased partnerships and initiatives such as those

mentioned above, will increase animal adoptions and educate the public on responsibilities of pet ownership.